



For Immediate Release  
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## **NEW CLINICAL ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTED FOR COALINGA STATE HOSPITAL**

COALINGA - Coalinga State Hospital (CSH) Executive Director Tom Voss announced the appointment of Colleen Carney Love, DNSc, RN, FAAN, as clinical administrator of CSH. Dr. Love will be responsible for the administrative and clinical management of all treatment programs for civilly and judicially committed Penal Code male adults with mental illness.

Dr. Love received her master's degree in nursing from the University of Iowa and her doctorate in nursing science from the University of California at San Francisco. For the past 13 years, Dr. Love has served as director of the Clinical Safety Project at Atascadero State Hospital (ASH). Under her direction, the Clinical Safety Project gained national attention as a model risk management program for violence prevention and secure therapeutic relationships, receiving awards from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospital Organizations, the American Psychiatric Association and the International Association of Forensic Nursing.

Dr. Love has been involved in the initiation of two new psychiatric facilities, including serving as the program director for the Central Coast Psychiatric Center in San Luis Obispo. She is a recent inductee into the American Academy of Nursing for her significant contributions and publications on violence prevention for health care workers, and is the founder and chair of the American Psychiatric Nursing Association's Council on Forensic Psychiatric Nursing.

A resident of the city of Atascadero, Dr. Love will assume her job as clinical administrator of CSH on Nov. 4. She will begin establishing a transition office at ASH as part of CSH's activation plan. Persons committed as sexually violent predators (SVPs) are currently treated at ASH. When CSH opens in 2005, approximately 600 patients will be transferred to the new hospital.

CSH, a 1500-bed secure treatment facility currently under construction, is one of five hospitals under the California Department of Mental Health (DMH). The hospital will primarily treat SVPs civilly committed by the courts to DMH. When fully operational, the hospital will employ approximately 2,000 personnel, including psychiatric technicians, registered nurses, physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, rehabilitation therapists, and a variety of hospital support staff, such as maintenance, grounds, janitorial, food service, trades, clerical and a hospital police force to ensure security within the facility.

Additional information about CSH and employment opportunities can be obtained at [www.dmh.ca.gov](http://www.dmh.ca.gov) or by calling (559) 935-4305.

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